William Mountford Kinsey Vale, Joseph Bosisto, Robert Murray Smith, William Cain, Thomas Houlden Thompson, Patrick Hayes, Lambton L. Mount, William Trenwith, John Blyth, and Henry Tyron Moore, to be Commissioners to take measures for the holding of such International Exhibition, and to carry out and superintend such Exhibition; and for the erecting, altering and maintaining of suitable grounds and buildings for the purposes of such Exhibition; you keeping the entire control and management thereof until otherwise determined, and for appointing and regulating the charges for admission to such buildings, premises, or grounds, or the rent or hire of any part thereof or otherwise, and the application of the proceeds towards the objects and the expenses of the said Exhibition; and for appointing the purposes of public enjoyment and entertainment for which such buildings, premises, and grounds, or any part thereof, may be used and applied; and for obtaining such exhibits as may, in your judgment, be necessary to illustrate the progress of industry and art elsewhere; and for securing the most effective display of all articles sent for public exhibition, their safe custody, their due return to their owners, or their disposal otherwise, as may be arranged; and for determining as to the nature, number, and value of the prizes to be awarded to the exhibitors and the impartial distribution thereof; and generally to do and execute all other matters and things whatsoever deemed necessary by you for the full accomplishment of the duties entrusted to you by this Commission: And further I do hereby with the advice aforesaid, constitute and appoint you the said George Higinbotham to be President, and you the said Sir James MacBain, Peter Lalor, Sir William John Clarke, and Frederick Thomas Sargood, to be the Vice-Presidents of the Commission: And do further constitute and appoint you the said Commissioners to be also the Executive Commissioners for the said Exhibition: And for your assistance in the due execution of this Commission I do hereby appoint George Theodore Adams Lavater, Esquire, to be Secretary to this Commission: And lastly, with the advice aforesaid, I do, by these presents, ordain that this Commission shall continue in full force and virtue until otherwise determined; and that you, the said Commissioners, or any five or more of you, shall and may from time to time, and at any place or places, proceed in the execution thereof, and of every matter and thing therein contained, although your proceedings may not be continued from time to time by adjournment.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Colony, at Melbourne, in the said Colony, this sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and eighty-seven, and in the fiftieth year of Her Majesty's reign.

HENRY B. LOCH.

(L. S.)

By His Excellency's Command,

ALFRED DEAKIN,
Chief Secretary.

Committees.

The President, Vice-Presidents, and Treasurer are *ex-officio* Members of all Committees.

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1. *Finance.*

The President, *Chairman.*

Hon. W. M. K. Vale, *Treasurer.*

Hon. J. Munro, M. P. | John Blyth, Esq., J. P.

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2. *Building.*

W. Cain, Esq., J. P., *Chairman.*

L. L. Mount, Esq. | John Blyth, Esq., J. P.
Hon. J. Munro, M. P. | T. H. Thompson, Esq., J. P.

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3. *Advertising and Printing.*

Hon. J. Munro, M. P., *Chairman.*

W. A. Trenwith, Esq. | John Blyth, Esq., J. P.

L. L. Mount, Esq.

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The Government of Victoria having determined to hold an Exhibition of Arts, Manufactures, Agricultural and Industrial Processes and Products of all nations during the year 1888, to celebrate the Centenary of the founding of New South Wales, the first Australian Colony, His Excellency Sir Henry Brougham Loch, Knight Commander of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over the Colony of Victoria and its Dependencies, &c., &c., did, on the sixth day of January 1887, by and with advice of the Executive Council, issue under the Seal of the Colony of Victoria a Commission authorizing measures to be taken for the holding of such Exhibition, and for the carrying out and superintending of the same.

In accordance with the powers vested in them by the aforesaid Commission, the Executive Commissioners have decided to open the

CENTENNIAL INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION, MELBOURNE, 1888,

on the first day of August 1888, the said Exhibition to be kept open for six months, and closed on the thirty-first day of January 1889.

The Exhibition will be held in buildings which have been specially erected for Exhibition purposes, situated in the Carlton Gardens, in the City of Melbourne, and in such other buildings and grounds attached thereto as may be found to be required; and it is intended that the Exhibition shall be open in the evening as well as during the day.

Acting under the powers conferred upon them, the Commissioners desire to invite the British, Foreign and Colonial Governments to take part in this Exhibition, and they trust that steps will be at once taken for the display of complete and thoroughly representative exhibits from every country and colony.

During the year 1885, Australasia, with a population of 3,500,000, imported from Great Britain goods to the amount of £ 32,000,000. The United States, France, and Germany, whose combined populations number 133,000,000, imported during the same period from Great Britain to the amount of £ 53,000,000. Calculated at per head of the population, Australasia therefore imported nearly 23 times as much as the abovenamed countries combined; and this in addition to a large and increasing trade with other countries.

The mileage length of railways opened for traffic in the Australasian colonies amounts to 7,700 miles; and when the lines further authorized and now in course of construction are completed, they will reach a total length of 10,000 miles.

Already the capital cities of South Australia, New South Wales, and Victoria are connected by railway, the distance from Adelaide to Sydney, *viâ* Melbourne, being 1,100 miles. Between Sydney and Brisbane, the capital city of Queensland, a further distance of 710 miles, there remain only about 100 miles of railway to be constructed to connect the capitals of the four principal colonies; and as the construction of this portion is now being rapidly proceeded with, there will soon be uninterrupted communication between Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane, a distance of 1,800 miles.

In view of the remarkable growth of Australasia in all things relating to population, production, and general distribution of wealth amongst all classes, the facilities for rapid, economical, and easy transit, and its many other advantages, the Commissioners confidently invite all desirous of extending their commercial relations with these rapidly-extending communities to exhibit the fullest and most complete representations of their Raw Products, Skilled Industries, and Arts, at the Centennial International Exhibition, Melbourne, 1888.

Applications for Space.

1. Governments intending to take part in this Exhibition are requested to forward an intimation to that effect not later than the 31st August 1887.

2. Applications for space, with full particulars, are invited as early as possible. Copies of the official form of entry can be obtained upon application to the Secretary to the Commissioners, through the representatives of the country or colony to which the applicants belong. In the event of no representatives being appointed by the country or colony to which an intending exhibitor belongs, he can

communicate direct with the Secretary. Applications for space should be made not later than the 31st August 1887. Space assigned to countries and colonies and not occupied on the 30th June 1888, will revert to the Executive Commissioners, and will be subject to re-arrangement. Space will not be charged for, but power will be reserved by the Executive Commissioners to reduce the space allotted to any Government or any exhibitor, should they deem fit, at any time.

3. British, Foreign and Colonial Governments, or Commissioners appointed by them, are requested to inform the Executive Commissioners, Melbourne, not later than the 31st December 1887, whether they require any increase or diminution of the space offered them, and the quantity. They are also requested to state whether there will be any exhibits for which special space should be provided, together with a description showing their nature and bulk.

4. Before the 31st May 1888, the representatives of countries or colonies should furnish, for the approval of the Executive Commissioners, approximate plans, showing the manner in which they propose to allot the space assigned to them, together with lists of their exhibitors, and any other information necessary for the compilation of the official Catalogue. (*Vide* No. 13.)

Shipment of Exhibits.

5. Commissioners representing countries or colonies, and private exhibitors whose countries are not officially represented, but to whom space has been allotted, may adopt one of two courses, *viz* :—

(*a*) They can ship their exhibits direct to Melbourne, and make their own arrangements for their shipment, reception, and exhibition ;

(*b*) Or consign their exhibits, freight and expenses prepaid, to

The Secretary,

Centennial International Exhibition, 1888,

Melbourne, Australia,

with specific instructions as to what is desired. Where it is found necessary to incur expenses on exhibits consigned to the Secretary, such expenses will be a first charge on such exhibits.

Marks and Address on Packages.

6. Packages forwarded from countries and colonies represented at the Exhibition should be addressed—

To the Commissioner for

Centennial International Exhibition, 1888,

Melbourne, Victoria,

Australia,

and the following information must be written on the outside of each package :—(1) The country from which the package comes. (2) Name or firm of exhibitor. (3) Address of the exhibitor. (4) Group and class to which exhibits belong. (5) Total number of packages sent by same exhibitor. (6) Serial number of that particular package. Each package must contain a list of contents.

Packages containing goods intended for the Exhibition must likewise have painted on them, as a distinctive mark, the following letters and figures within a triangle, thus :—

Packages from foreign countries must also be marked with the colours and devices of their national flag. Foreign Commissioners are particularly requested to send to the Executive Commissioners, Melbourne, as soon as possible, a specification of the packages forwarded, with their distinguishing marks.